

## Commando Soldiers Convoy North to Iraqi Capital



By Pfc. Brian Schroeder, 2nd BCT, 10th Mountain Division Public Affairs

**A Soldier from 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division takes a break after a day of driving across the Iraqi desert. Soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division arrived in Baghdad and are attached to the 1st Cavalry Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.**

By Pfc. Brian Schroeder  
2nd BCT, 10th Mountain  
Division Public Affairs

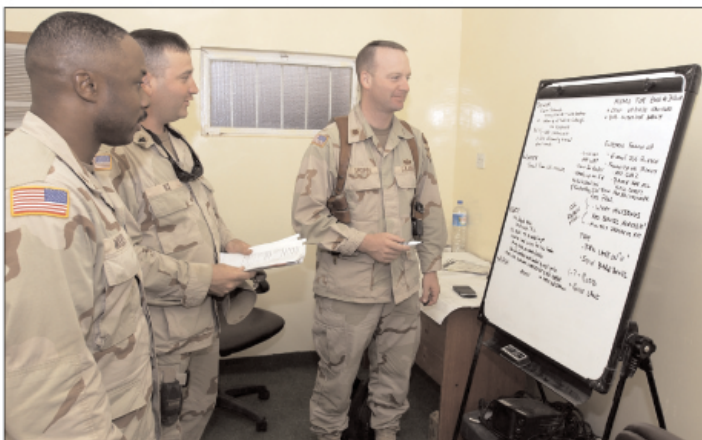
**CAMP VICTORY NORTH-** As the summer sun beats down across the spacious arid desert, a solitary shepherd watches his flock. After a brief stretch, he sees a dust cloud approaching him like a stampede of camels. Before he can count his flock, a convoy of Soldiers rolls by in armored vehicles headed for Baghdad.

Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, made their way across the Iraqi desert in convoys to join Soldiers from the 1st Cavalry Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

"The convoy was extreme-

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## 5BCT's Civil Affairs Team Works to Rebuild Al Rashid



By Pfc. Al Barrus, 122nd MPAD

**Looking over civil military operations projects in-the-making stand three members of the 5th Brigade Combat Team's Operation Oasis engineering team, (left to right) Maj. Curtis J. Woods, Sgt. 1st Class Ronald Ice and Maj. Christopher Spohn.**

By Pfc. Al Barrus  
122nd MPAD

**CAMP FERRIN-HUGGINS-** Being one of the poorer districts of Baghdad, Al Rashid may need more attention from civil affairs efforts. What is needed is provided by 5th Brigade Combat Team's rebuilding budget of more than \$160 million, according to Capt. Dustin Felix, 5BCT's civil affairs officer (S-5).

Numerous projects in the district put thousands of Iraqis to work through the brigade's Operation Oasis: the overall project to improve electricity, sewers, water and other essen-

tial services in the district.

It's the chief rebuilding effort in the brigade with the largest rebuilding budget within the division.

Behind the bricks and beams of all the brawn in construction, lies much planning and coordination. The 5BCT's Operation Oasis engineering team undertakes this task.

"Civil affairs develops projects through talking to the Iraqis and identifies types of projects," said Maj. Curtis Woods, roads and lighting chief for the team. "And we, as engineers, help them schedule projects; sculpting them and

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# Giving New Meaning to 'Been There, Done That'

By Spc. Michelle Newbold  
1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs

**CAMP VICTORY NORTH-** With a career that spans almost 24 years, including two tours in Vietnam, one in Somalia, one in Haiti, two in Korea, and now one in Iraq, Chief Warrant Officer 4, Roger Davis, of the 1st Cavalry

Division's Effects and Coordination Cell, has led a remarkable life.

Davis initially enlisted in the Marines in 1964. "I needed some time to think and thought it was a good idea," he said. "I needed some time to mature, also."

He began his military career in mortars. "I worked my way up to 155-milimeter,

towed artillery," Davis said. He spent over half of his four-year enlistment in Vietnam, with two 13-month tours. "The first one [tour] is a state of panic," he said. "The second one, been there already, dreaded it."

One specific event in Vietnam that Davis reflects on is the Marine Sergeant, Alfredo Gonzalez, who posthumously received the Medal of Honor. Gonzalez attended boot camp with Davis. Gonzalez was involved in Operation Hue City, during the Tet offensive in 1968. He helped his wounded Marines, and continued to fight even though he was seriously wounded. Davis is proud to have known him.

Davis met his wife, Patricia, during his first and second tour of Vietnam. He was on a weekend pass from Quantico, Va.

"I was visiting my cousin at Jones Beach [New York]," Davis said. "She introduced herself. Normally she's very shy, it was just meant to be."

They have been married 36 years now.

"I think I'll keep her, if she'll let me," he said.

Following Vietnam, Davis obtained his bachelor's degree

in business, specializing in financial management, and then moved east. He remained in finance and consulting for nearly 18 years. He worked at a bank, an insurance company and a consulting house. He ended up on Wall Street doing consulting and financial planning.

"I had a briefcase, my executive lunch box," Davis said. He received his master's of business administration while working in finance.

In 1986, Davis considered reenlisting into the Army Reserve. "I figured I'd be too old, but the guy said, 'Come on over, we'll have lots of fun,'" he said. "Next thing I knew, I was sworn in. I guess I'm supposed to be doing this!"

In 1989, Davis went on active duty.

"I missed the company of heroes and heroines," he said. Shortly thereafter he became a warrant officer. He was then deployed to Somalia as part of Operation Restore Hope. "My first organization as a warrant officer, I went right in," Davis said.

Following Operation

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By Spc. Michelle Newbold, 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs

**Chief Warrant Officer 4, Roger Davis, of 1st Cavalry Division, has almost 24 years service in the military. He completed two tours in Vietnam, one in Somalia, one in Haiti, two in Korea, and now one in Iraq. He currently serves as the field artillery intelligence officer for the division.**

## Saturday

High: 110  
Low: 82



## Sunday

High: 111  
Low: 82



## Monday

High: 112  
Low: 84



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

## Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

Thank you for your help.  
shu-kran le-musaadatek

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## One Year Later, Goal Remains to Help Iraqis

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ly smooth," said 1st Lt. Thomas Scaife, 2-14 Infantry's adjutant. "We had the best communication between vehicles on any convoy I've been on."

The road to Baghdad was a combination of sandy gravel roads and paved blacktop roads. On the paved roads, Iraqi vendors set up small, shifty structures made of straw and mud bricks, hoping to peddle their wares.

Scaife deployed to Iraq less than a year ago. He said he tried to wave at as many Iraqis as he could on the way to Baghdad this time, showing them his support.

"The Iraqis are more receptive to us this time around," Scaife said. "I would say 80 percent of the people I



waved to, waved back. They seem happy with us and what we are doing."

When the convoys stopped along the side of the roads, barefoot children in tattered clothes would approach the Soldiers and ask for food, water and even their watches.

"These kids are walking around on asphalt roads barefoot, begging for food," Scaife said. "They are the people we are here to help."

"The deployment is a good experience for people to see another culture," said Pfc. Levail McKinney, an awards clerk with 2-14 Infantry. "Being on this convoy shows me another side of life. I'm in an office all the time and this lets me see something I wouldn't normally see."

The mission for the 10th Mountain Soldiers is different than it was last time. The transfer of power from a U.S.-led coalition to the interim Iraqi government changes the role for more than 140,000 U.S. servicemen and women in Iraq.

"We are here to maintain peace in Iraq," McKinney said. "We have to let the Iraqi people know we are here to help them get things rolling with their new government, so they will be able to take care of themselves."

## Proud Veteran Recounts Career Highlights

### Continued from Page 2

Restore Hope, he was again deployed, this time to Port Au Prince, Haiti, with the 10th Mountain Division. He then served a rotation in Korea, followed by a couple years with III Corps where he served as the corps field artillery intelligence officer (FAIO). He then completed another rotation in Korea, until he was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division in 2003. Davis has spent a little over 20 years on military active duty, and almost 24 years total service.

Davis has plenty of stories from his years of military serv-

ice. One particular incident he fondly remembers was during his deployment to Somalia. Gen. Peter Pace stopped by his radar site. Pace is now Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, but at the time was a one star, where he served as Deputy Commander, Joint Task Force - Somalia.

"He came out for the three holidays, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years," Davis said. "He came out to tell us what a great job we're doing." Davis was impressed that Pace took time out of his schedule to visit the Soldiers.

"That's the kind of leadership I like," Davis said. "He is a busy guy. He was going

around wishing everyone a happy holiday."

Following this rotation, Davis plans to retire. While here in Iraq, his wife has moved them into their "retirement" house outside of Belton, Texas.

"It's a great little piece of heaven there," he said. Davis' son, Roger Jr., lives and works near his house in Austin, Texas. "He's not too far away."

Davis is proud of his military service. After spending those 18 years in finance, he knew he needed a change.

"If you hate going into work, it's time to change," he said. "I never worried about that in the Army. It's amazing!"

## Today in History July 24

► From [historychannel.com](http://historychannel.com)

**1864 Confederate General Jubal Early defeats Union troops under General George Crook to keep the Shenandoah Valley clear of Yankees.**

**1956 Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis perform their last comedy show together at New York's Copacabana Club.**

**1959 During the grand opening ceremony of the American National Exhibition in Moscow, Vice President Richard Nixon and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev engage in a heated debate about capitalism and communism in the middle of a model kitchen set up for the fair. The so-called "kitchen debate" became one of the most famous episodes of the Cold War.**

**1965 In the air war, four F-4C Phantom jets escorting a formation of U.S. bombers on a raid over munitions manufacturing facilities at Kang Chi, 55 miles northwest of Hanoi, are fired at from an unknown launching site. It was the first time the enemy had launched antiaircraft missiles at U.S. aircraft.**

1CD Equal Opportunity Office

presents:

**A Talent Show &  
Sports Day  
TODAY**

**6 am: 5 & 10K Fun Run  
9 am: Volleyball Tourney  
(6-person teams)  
1 pm: Tug of War  
(10-person teams max)  
7:30 pm: Talent Show at  
Victory North PX**

**POC: MAJ Cobb, SFC  
Collins, DNVT: 531-9862  
Iraqna: 07901473517**



## Team Provides Three-Pronged Effort

**Continued from Page 1**

evaluating the needs for the projects.

The team consists of Soldiers and Iraqi civilians from many different areas of expertise, which all tie into civil engineering and help provide a technical view to civil affairs projects, according to Woods, an Army reservist who is a director of public works from Mt. Vernon, New York when he's not in desert camouflage.

"We have an officer covering each bucket of essential services," explained Sgt. 1st Class Ronald Ice, the team's power chief and sole non-commissioned officer. "Our job is more of a liaison and tracking the big brigade-wide projects to help the visibility of the Army in a positive light in the district."

As a liaison, the team provides a technical perspective to other elements involved in the projects.

"The civil affairs talks to the local governments for overall look on an area. We are a much smaller scale," said Maj. Christopher Spohn, the team's chief. "We look at the professional details of CA projects. We do more technical points."

Lacking the resources to organize and execute daily convoys to construction sights, the team is supplemented by groups of Iraqi civilians to conduct day-to-day operations in sector.

"The civilians basically are our eyes out there, where we can't go," Woods said. "They can just drive a car out to a site, where as we would have to get a convoy out there. They basically do the day-to-day operations."

There are two civilian components in the team. One component is made of six experienced Iraqi civil engineers who parallel in many of the same areas as their U.S. counterparts: some specializing in electricity or construction of sewage systems.

"They are familiar with the Iraqi standard," Woods

said. "We have them draw it out and identify certain things that are common. We check the equivalents like standard system versus metric system."

The other Iraqi component of the group is the technical advisory team. It consists of 25 Baghdad University engineering students

who conduct reconnaissance on projects, as well as quality assurance during the different stages of construction.

Through the three segments of the Operation Oasis engineering team, the group effort is to literally help Al Rashid become an oasis.

"We get a sense of gratitude when something is done and accomplished," Woods said. "It actually helps out the Iraqis, and you can see the change taking place. That part is what all engineers like to see. It shows us that we help."

**"That part is what all engineers like to see. It shows us that we help."**

**-MAJ Curtis Woods, Operation Oasis Engineering Team, 5BCT**

## ► "Wake Me Up When It's Over..."



AP/Longview Daily News

**Four-month-old Noah Kloppman of Rainier, Ore., sleeps through the judging at the baby contest at the Columbia County Fair in St. Helens, Ore. Noah took second place in the 0-6 month category. Contestants were judged on outfit, personality and smile, with three places awarded in each age group.**

## ► View From A Peaceful Vantage Point



Seattle Post-Intelligencer

**Instructor Tracy Decroce adjusts Kathleen O'Meara's arm during a free yoga class offered by the West Seattle Family YMCA on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. The class meets at Don Armeni Park.**



**Today in Cav****History****July 24****1950 - (Pusan Perimeter)**

Four different attempts by three American light tanks

failed to dislodge the enemy behind the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment and Lt. Col. Eugene J. Field, the 2nd Battalion commander was wounded at the road-block. General Palmer sent the 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment and the 16th Reconnaissance Company toward the cut-off battalion. By noon, enemy troops were attacking the 99th and 61st Field Artillery Battalions, which were supporting the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, indicating that the infiltration had been extensive. U. S. 1st Cavalry Division comes forward to cover withdrawal of the U. S. 24th Infantry Division into the Pusan Perimeter.

**'Sopranos' Fans Must Wait 'til 2006**

LOS ANGELES- Hang on to your memories of "The Sopranos." The acclaimed mob drama won't be back for a long, long time.

An HBO executive says new episodes won't be ready until sometime in 2006.

He hopes David Chase will write more than the 10 episodes he's promised for the final season. The New York Daily News reported that HBO

is talking to Chase about producing 13 episodes.

"The Sopranos" was the leading Emmy nominee this year among series, with 20 nominations. The show has never won for best drama series.

This season shocked many viewers by killing off Adriana LaCerva, fiancée of Soprano family soldier Christopher Moltisanti.



HBO/Reuters

**"The Sopranos" wiseguys will have a nice long vacation before returning with new episodes.**

**BROTHERHOOD OF  
BIKERS  
TODAY  
6 P.M.**

**CAMP BLACK JACK  
MAYOR CELL  
PALLET BAR & GRILL  
ALL RIDERS  
WELCOME**

**MLB**

scores as of July 23  
8 p.m. PDT

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**

Minnesota 7  
Baltimore 3

New York 8  
Boston 7

Cleveland 3  
Kansas City 2

Toronto 7  
Tampa Bay 4

Chicago 6  
Detroit 4

Texas  
@ Oakland

Anaheim  
@ Seattle

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

Montreal 2  
Florida 1

Chicago 5  
Philadelphia 1

Pittsburgh 6  
Cincinnati 3

San Francisco 7  
St. Louis 2

Atlanta  
@ New York  
(postponed due to rain)

Milwaukee  
@ Houston

Colorado  
@ Arizona

San Diego  
@ Los Angeles

**TV GUIDE**

<b>6 p.m.</b>	Law & Order	Saturday Night Live ('03-'04) 5:30 p.m.	ESPNews/ Raceline	<i>It Could Happen to You</i> 5 p.m.
<b>7 p.m.</b>	Headline News/ Navy/Marine Corps News	Kickin' It	SportsCenter	The View
<b>8 p.m.</b>	SportsCenter	AMA Motocross	Wire to Wire/ Tour de France - Stage 19 8:30 p.m.	Burt Wolf's Local Flavors/ A Makeover Story
<b>9 p.m.</b>	Friday Night Fights	AMA Motocross		While You Were Out
<b>10 p.m.</b>	ESPNews 10:30 p.m.	EXPAN 2Day	ESPNews 10:30 p.m.	Trading Spaces